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31 March 1948

Colonel Charles F. Craig
Deputy Chief of Staff
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San Francisco, California

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Dear Colonel:

I have a rather unusual favor to ask of you, which I hope you will not hesitate to deny if it is not convenient or if for any other reason you think it best not to comply.

We are still toying with the movement of the FBIS station from Kauai to another location in the West Pacific. In order to estimate funds for such a project, I need to know what I might expect it to cost to close down the station on Kauai and transfer it elsewhere. On Kauai, the grounds we occupy are leased from the Kekaha Sugar Company, which, I believe, has offices in Honolulu. Our contract has a restoration clause in it. When FBIS originally occupied this property, it was pretty much of a mud-hole, and I am sure the grounds have been greatly improved since that time. In addition, there are some twenty odd hutment type buildings which were placed on this property by the Army and which were turned over to us when this organization was transferred from the War Department to CIA. All in all, I am sure that the property has been greatly improved and it is my feeling that the Kekaha Sugar Company would be more than glad to accept these buildings in their present state rather than ask us to move them off the grounds if we should abandon this site. However, if they should insist that the site be restored to its original condition, it would involve considerable expense.

I am interested in knowing informally what the attitude of the Sugar Company would be toward restoration, if we should leave Kauai for another location. If you could find out for me without undue difficulty, I would appreciate it greatly. I am sure that it seems unusual that I should write to you about this matter rather than have it investigated by my own people. My reason for doing this is that I am positive that Mr. Hoop is dead set against moving this station from Kauai, and although I hate to say it, I am fearful that he might not approach the Sugar Company in such a manner as to obtain for me a favorable answer. Of course, I would not like to have him know that I have asked you to look into this for me.

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Please understand again that if it is at all inconvenient for you, forget about it. I am interested only in an informal opinion of what their desires might be and, of course, I am anxious to make a settlement without cost to the U. S. Government, if this is possible.

Please give my kindest regards to Mrs. Craig and George.

Sincerely,

L. K. WHITE

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